

the Sisters placed in charge of his parochial school.

A fair was held as the first step to attain that end. It was to have been held in the court house, and was rented by the parish priest for that purpose, but an arch-enemy was at work. Being an enemy from without, he could not very easily "sow cockle among the tares," but he did all he could outside the "field" to spoil the good undertaking. He—or, rather, they—secured, in an underhand way, the use of the court house for themselves on the very night on which it was to have been used for the Catholic fair. Of course they used the building for a charitable purpose also, they say; but one form of charity should not, nor can be promoted at the expense of another; the interests of charity recognize no distinction as to person, class or creed, it is essentially one and indivisible—unchangeable—like even to Him from whom it cometh and for whom it worketh. St. Paul says, "Charity thinketh not evil, and seeketh not its own." In this instance, however, we see it not only seeking its own, but seeking and even taking what belonged to another.

However, Providence did not abandon the good work, for a generous Catholic son of Alsace gave the use of his large store room (free of charge) for four nights. God reward the worthy Alsacian and his better half for this and many other proofs they have given of their kindness and charity. There is a dash of chivalry in the act and in the manner in which it was done, which is worthy of the historic battlefield from which he hails.

Tuesday, the 17th ult., was the day fixed for the opening of the fair. The different Protestant denominations here hold their prayer-meetings on Wednesdays and Fridays; but on this occasion it seems the heat of devotion was too great to permit them to wait for the regular day, so they held their services

on Tuesday—the day appointed for the opening of the fair. Well, we should be very sorry to find fault with an increase of devotion or charity, but there was a little room for improvement.

But "the bells! the bells! the ringing and the dinging of the bells!" They rang as they never rang before. Longer and louder than ever. Well, devotion is like many other things in this—that it is contagious, and even the bells appear to have contracted the disease which on one section of the community had assumed the proportions of an epidemic. The bells at one end, a living power house at the other and a strong rope acting as conductor, there was nothing to prevent a good current. So they did ring with a vengeance. If it were a joyous peal it would not have been so bad, for music hath charms, but they rang more like fire bells than merry chimes.

This little tableau would not be quite complete without another prominent figure. It deserves to be traced in distinct lines for it stood in bold relief at the fair. Alas, it was one of the fair sex and one of the congregation, too. The lady made her debut with a show of generosity that was worthy of the royal Isabella by offering her jewels for the cause; but at the eleventh hour changed front and took it all back. However, in spite of declared enemies before us and deserters in our very ranks, the Catholic fair was a complete success.

*L. Carrico, A. O. S. B.*

### **Visit of the Right Rev. Meerschaert to St. Patrick's Mission.**

ANADARKO, IND. TER.

In the afternoon of February 9th, His Lordship arrived at the mission rather fatigued after a drive of thirty miles. All were anxiously awaiting the arrival of the Right Rev. Bishop.

About four o'clock all faces were brightened, and beamed with joy when